THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) According to the provisional results of 1991 census, Bihar has lowest literacy rate in the country.

(b) The literacy rate in Bihar is 38.54 per cent while the national average is 52.11 per cent.

(c) Government wishes to selectively tap external funds for "Education for all" projects in the educationally backward States.

(d) and (e) Andhra Pradesh Primary Education Project is under implementation with assistance from Overseas Development Agency (ODA) of United Kingdom. The ODA assistance for the period 1989-94 is of the order of £ 31.1 million. UNICEF pledged US $ 8 million from its general resources and to raise supplementary funds of US $ 100 million for the Bihar Education Project during the period 1991-95.

Effect on imports of curbs imposed by RBI

149. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the overall impact on imports due to the recent curbs recently imposed by the Reserve Bank of India on

(i) the raw material imports;

(ii) industrial production in the country;

(iii) export commitment;

(iv) implementation of new projects; and

(v) Balance of payment crisis;

(b) what are the circumstances that have led to imposition of these curbs on imports; and

(c) whether, in view of the experience gained, Government propose to reconsider the question afresh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) In order to moderate import growth and contain the outflow of foreign exchange reserves, the Reserve of India has in the recent past enhanced the cash margins/deposit requirements on imports other than import of capital goods, made imports of all capital goods possible only through lines of credit available with the financial institutions and imposed a 25 per cent interest surcharge on bank credit for imports. It is too early to assess the impact of these measures on overall imports.

(b) and (c) Restrictions on import financing had been necessitated by a very difficult and deteriorating external payments position and would be reviewed after there is an improvement in the balance of payments situation.

Employees representation in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan

150. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan had in the 54th meeting of its Board of Governments decided in Principle to include employee's representatives on the Sangathan and its Board of Governors;

(b) whether the modalities thereof have been worked out;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether *ad hoc* nominations will be made pending finalisation of modalities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The suggestions from the various Service Associations of the Sangathan regarding modalities of employees